

STATE OF INDIANA

IN THE FOUNTAIN CIRCUIT COURT

COUNTY OF FOUNTAIN

CAUSE NO. 23C01-\_\_\_\_\_-SC-\_\_\_\_\_

**NOTICE OF SMALL CLAIM**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name of Plaintiff 1**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name of Defendant 1**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address of Plaintiff 1

VS.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address of Defendant 1

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number of Plaintiff 1

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone of Defendant 1

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address of Plaintiff 1

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name of Plaintiff 2**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name of Defendant 2**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address of Plaintiff 2

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address of Defendant 2

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number of Plaintiff 2

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number of Defendant 2

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address of Plaintiff 2

**STATEMENT OF SMALL CLAIM**

You, the Defendant(s), have been sued by the Plaintiff(s), whose name(s) appear above. You must appear in Fountain Circuit Court, Magistrate's Courtroom, 301 Fourth Street, Covington, Indiana 47932, in person or by your attorney, on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ for your Initial Hearing. The Clerk's staff may be reached at 765-793-6230. If you cannot appear at that date and time, you may file a written Motion for Continuance requesting a different Court date, which may or may not be granted by the Court. If you fail to appear, the Court may enter a Default Judgment against you.

The Plaintiff's claim is for: ☐ a Note, Contract or Account (attach copy) ☐ Other\_\_\_\_\_

A brief statement of the nature of the Plaintiff's claim against you is as follows:\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

The Plaintiff(s) demands Judgment against you, the Defendant(s), for \$\_\_\_\_\_,  
plus interest from the date of \_\_\_\_\_, at the rate of \_\_\_\_\_%,  
attorney's fees of \$\_\_\_\_\_,  
and the Court costs of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for this action.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Plaintiff 1 or attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Plaintiff 2 or attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**SEE IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON OTHER SIDE.**

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS SMALL CLAIM**

1. **The Small Claims Office** – The Fountain County Clerk’s, Small Claims Office (“Small Claims Office”) is located at Fountain County Courthouse, 301 Fourth Street, Covington, Indiana 47932 or by telephone at 765-793-6275 \*4 \*3. All pleadings (motions, requests, notices, etc.) are filed through the Small Claims Office. Sample forms are available on the Fountain County Clerk’s website (<http://www.fountaincounty.net>). **The Clerk’s staff is not allowed to give legal advice.**
2. **mycase.in.gov** – You may check the status of your case, including your Hearing dates, at mycase.in.gov.
3. **Right to Jury Trial** – By filing this Notice of Small Claim, the Plaintiff waives or gives up the right to a Jury Trial. The Defendant’s right to a Jury Trial is waived or given up unless the Defendant files a Request for Jury Trial that complies with Indiana Code § 33-29-2-7 within ten (10) days of the receipt of the Notice of Small Claim, pursuant to Indiana Small Claims Rule 4(C). The Defendant must pay \$70.00 at the Small Claims Office within ten (10) days after the Request for Jury Trial has been granted, plus any additional money required by statute, or the defendant waives or gives up the right to Jury Trial.
4. **Representing Yourself** – Most Plaintiffs and Defendants may represent themselves in Court or be represented by an attorney. A copy of the Indiana Small Claims Manual (“Manual”) is available at the Small Claims Office. The Manual, the Indiana Small Claims Rules, and a video, “Representing Yourself in Small Claims Court,” are also available at: <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/2710.htm>. Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Limited Liability Companies (LLC’s), and Corporations may appear by a designated full-time employee, if the requested Judgment amount does not exceed \$1,500.00 and a Resolution has been filed at the Small Claims Office.
5. **Notice by email** – You may receive all notices and orders from the Court by email, instead of by the U.S. Postal Service, by filing an Appearance by Self-Represented Person in a Civil Case. If you provide an email address, you will no longer receive paper copies of the notices and orders from the Court. You may file a petition for an Order Granting an Exemption as to the email address.
6. **No Trial at First Hearing** – The Court usually does NOT conduct a contested Trial at the first Hearing. A Bench Trial date will usually be set during the first Hearing, if the case is going to proceed to Trial.
7. **Failure to Appear** – If the Defendant fails to appear for any Hearing or Trial, the Court may enter a Default Judgment against the Defendant pursuant to Indiana Small Claims Rule 10(B). If the Plaintiff fails to appear for any Hearing or Trial, the case will be dismissed pursuant to Indiana Small Claims Rule 10(A).
8. **Motions for Continuance** – Either party may be granted no more than one (1) continuance pursuant to Indiana Small Claims Rule 9(A). The Court will decide if any Motion for Continuance will be granted.
9. **Plaintiff May Request a Dismissal** – The Plaintiff(s) may file a Motion to Dismiss the case at any time.
10. **If the Defendant Does Not Dispute the Claim** (agrees that he/she owes the requested Judgment):
  - a. the Defendant may pay the full amount of the Judgment at the Small Claims Office at any time prior to the first Hearing; OR
  - b. the Plaintiff and Defendant may make a Payment Agreement by completing and filing a Pretrial Settlement Agreement signed by both the Plaintiff and the Defendant; OR
  - c. the Defendant must attend the first Hearing to allow the Court to enter Judgment and determine payment options.
11. **Counterclaims** – If the Defendant has a Claim against the Plaintiff from the same transaction or occurrence, the Counterclaim must be filed at the Small Claims Office at least ten (10) days prior to the Trial to allow the Plaintiff to receive the Counterclaim at least seven (7) days prior to the Hearing, pursuant to Indiana Small Claim Rule 5(A).